

IN THE CLAIMS

✓ 1 - 2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) A computer system ~~in accordance with Claim 2~~, comprising:

a client component;

a server component, said client component arranged to make requests to said server component during execution of said client component;

a request archive component, maintaining a representation of requests which can be satisfied by said server component; and

a request intercepting component, arranged to intercept requests from said client component to said server component, and to determine from said representation whether a request is supported by said server component;

such that said request intercepting component is arranged to search external sources to locate and provide to said server component an executable implementation of functionality required for said server component to support said request when said request is not currently supported;

such that said request intercepting component thereafter invokes said request on said server component in a manner hidden from said client component;

wherein such that said server component comprises an object represented in a dynamic link library file in at least one computer program;

wherein such that said request intercepting component searches for said dynamic link library file, or an updated version of said dynamic link library file if a current version of said

dynamic link library file held on said computer system does not provide the functionality of said server component.

✓ 4 - 7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently Amended) A computer system ~~in accordance with Claim 7~~, comprising:

a client component;

a server component, said client component arranged to make requests to said server component during execution of said client component;

a request archive component, including a representation of requests which can be satisfied by said server component; and

a request intercepting component, intercepting requests from said client component to said server component, and determining from said representation if a request is supported by said server component; said request intercepting component being arranged to search external sources to locate and provide to said server component an executable implementation of functionality required for said server component to support said request if said request is not currently supported; and for thereafter invoking said request on said server component in a manner hidden from said client component;

wherein such that said server component comprises an object represented in a dynamic link library file in at least one computer program;

wherein such that said request intercepting component searches for said dynamic link library file, or an updated version of said dynamic link library file if a current version of said dynamic link library file held on said computer system does not provide the functionality of said server component.

✓ 9 - 10. (Cancelled)

11. (New) A computer system comprising:

a client component comprising a software program;

a server component comprising an operating system shell called by said software program, such that said client component is arranged to make requests to said server component during execution of said client component;

a request archive component for maintaining a representation of requests which can be satisfied by said server component; and

a request intercepting component comprising a command interpreter, arranged to intercept requests from said client component to said server component, and to determine from said representation whether a request is supported by said server component;

such that said request intercepting component is arranged to search external sources to locate and provide to said server component an executable implementation of functionality required for said server component to support said request when said request is not currently supported;

said request intercepting component thereafter invoking said request on said server component in a manner hidden from said client component.

12. (New) A computer system comprising:

a client component, comprising a software program;

a server component, comprising an operating system shell called by said software program, such that said client component is arranged to make request to said server component during execution of said client component;

CI a request archive component maintaining a representation of requests which can be satisfied by said server component; and

a request intercepting component, intercepting requests from said client component to said server component, and for determining from said representation whether a request is supported by said server component; said intercepting means comprising a command interpreter and being arranged to search external sources to locate and provide to said server component an executable implementation of functionality required for said server component to support said request when said request is not currently supported; and for thereafter invoking said request on said server component in a manner hidden from said client component.

13. (New) A CORBA distributed computer system comprising:

a client component, said client component being an object of said CORBA distributed computer system;

a server component, said server component being an object of said CORBA distributed computer system, such that said client component is arranged to make requests to said server component during execution of said client component;

a request archive component, maintaining a representation of requests which can be satisfied by said server component; and

a request intercepting component, comprising an object request broker arranged to intercept requests from said client component to said server component, and to determine from said representation whether a request is supported by said server component;

such that said request intercepting component is arranged to search external sources to locate and provide to said server component an executable implementation of functionality required for said server component to support said request when said request is not currently supported;

said request intercepting component thereafter invoking said request on said server component in a manner hidden from said client component.

14. (New) A CORBA distributed computer system comprising:

a client component, said client component being an object of the CORBA distributed computer system;

U a server component, said server component being an object of the CORBA distributed computer system, such that said client component is arranged to make request to said server component during execution of said client component;

a request archive component, maintaining a representation of requests which can be satisfied by said server component; and

a request intercepting component, intercepting requests from said client component to said server component, and for determining from said representation whether a request is supported by said server component; said request intercepting component comprising a command interpreter and being arranged to search external sources to locate and provide to said server component an executable implementation of functionality required for said server component to support said request when said request is not currently supported; and for thereafter invoking said request on said server component in a manner hidden from said client component.

15. (New) A computer system comprising:

a client component;

a server component, comprising a protocol interpreter, such that said client component is arranged to make requests to said server component during execution of said client component;

C/ a request archive component, maintaining a representation of requests which can be satisfied by said server component; and

a request intercepting component, arranged to intercept requests from said client component to said server component, and to determine from said representation whether a request is supported by said protocol interpreter of said server component;

such that said request intercepting component is arranged to search external sources to locate and provide to said server component an executable implementation of functionality required for said server component to support said request when said request is not currently supported;

such that said request intercepting component thereafter invokes said request on said server component in a manner hidden from said client component.

16. (New) A computer system comprising:

a client component;

a server component, comprising a protocol interpreter, such that said client component is arranged to make request to said server component during execution of said client component;

a request archive component, maintaining a representation of requests which can be satisfied by said server component; and

a request intercepting component, intercepting requests from said client component to said server component, and determining from said representation whether a request is supported by said protocol interpreter of said server component; said request intercepting component being arranged to search external sources to locate and provide to said server component an executable implementation of functionality required for said server component to support said request when said request is not currently supported; and for thereafter invoking said request on said server component in a manner hidden from said client component.



17. (New) A component based computer system comprising:

a client component;

a server component comprising a local service manager, such that said client component is arranged to make requests to said server component during execution of said client component;

an archive request component for maintaining a representation of requests which can be satisfied by said server component; and

a request intercepting component, arranged to intercept requests from said client component to said server component, and to determine from said representation whether a request is supported by said local service manager of said server component;

such that said request intercepting component is arranged to search external sources to locate and provide to said server component an executable implementation of functionality required for said server component to support said request when said request is not currently supported;

such that said request intercepting component thereafter invokes said request on said server component in a manner hidden from said client component.

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18. (New) A component based computer system comprising:

a client component;

a server component, comprising a local service manager, such that said client component is arranged to make request to said server component during execution of said client component;

c an archive request component, maintaining a representation of requests which can be satisfied by said server component; and

a request intercepting component, intercepting requests from said client component to said server component, and determining from said representation whether a request is supported by said local service manager of said server component; said request intercepting component being arranged to search external sources to locate and provide to said server component an executable implementation of functionality required for said server component to support said request when said request is not currently supported; and for thereafter invoking said request on said server component in a manner hidden from said client component.

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